Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00272 301635Z

41
ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01 PA-04 PM-07 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07

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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0446
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0272

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: DUTCH/POLISH SEPTEMBER 26 BILATERAL

FOLLOWING IS REPORT OF SEPTEMBER 26 CONVERSATION BETWEEN NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES) AND POLISH REP (STRULAK), AS DISTRIBUTED BY QUARLES AT SEPTEMBER 30 AD HOC GROUP MEETING:

BEGIN TEXT.

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PAGE 02 MBFR V 00272 301635Z

1. STRULAK SAID THERE WAS NO REAL IN-

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

CENTIVE FOR WP TO TRY AND CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT ON BASIS OF CURRENT NATO PROPOSALS, EVEN AS AMENDED BY RECENT WESTERN SUGGESTIONS:

2. MAIN OBSTACLES, HE SAID, ARE THE NON-INCLUSION IN REDUCTIONS OF WEST EUROPEAN PARTICIPANTS, IN THE FIRST PLACE GERMANY, AND THE NON-INCLUSION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE NON-INCREASE OFFER CANNOT COUNTER-BALANCE THE EFFECT OF SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER RUSSIAN WITHDRAWALS WITH RESPECT TO US WITHDRAWALS IN FIRST PHASE. WHAT GUARANTEE CAN WP HAVE THAT GERMANY WILL REDUCE MORE THAN SYMBOLICALLY AND THAT GERMAN FORCES WILL REMAIN REDUCED? STRULAK INDICATED THAT THE ABSENCE OF INDIVIDUAL CEILINGS ON FORCE LEVELS WAS FELT TO CONSTITUTE A SERIOUS OBSTACLE, ALTHOUGH QUARLES DID NOT GAIN THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WOULD FINALLY BE UNACCEPTABLE. QUARLES BELIEVED EAST WOULD NEED SOME SORT OF FURTHER ASSURANCES ON THIS POINT. QUARLES MADE IT CLEAR THAT IF SOME COUNTRY - ONCE THE COMMON CEILING WAS ESTABLISHED - MADE FURTHER REDUCTIONS, SUCH A GAP COULD AND WOULD HAVE TO BE FILLED BY THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING. IN DOING SO, THE MILITARY, FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND IMPLICA-TIONS WOULD BE FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. STRULAK HAD REFERRED TO POSSIBLE SUBSEQUENT WITHDRAWALS FROM THE NGA OF US OR FRENCH FORCES.)

3. THE IDEA OF A COMMON CEILING, THAT IS TO SAY APPROXIMATE PARITY OF FORCE LEVELS, DID NOT SEEM TO BE A CONCEPT THAT WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE POLES, ALTHOUGH STRUALK MADE CLEAR THAT IT IS ONE THAT IS DIFFICULT TO DEFINE AND SHOULD APPLY TO THE WHOLE FIELD OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS. THE COMPLEXITY AND VARYING BUILD UP OF FORCES ON BOTH SIDES OF COURSE CONSIDERABLY COMPLICATES AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT.

4. STRULAK SAID IT WOULD BE HIGHLY REGRETTABLE IF FURTHER PROGRESS IN MBFR WERE TOO TIGHTLY TIED IN

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WITH PROGRESS IN CSCE. HE SAID HE HAD INFORMATION THAT MATTERS SEEMED TO BE SOMEWHAT LOOSENING UP IN GENEVA.

5. QUARLES HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT WESTERN TWO PHASED CONCEPT WAS BEING SUBJECTED TO INCREASING CRITI-CISM ON THE PART OF THE WP COUNTRIES AND THAT WEST WOULD DO WELL TO REFLECT ON WHETHER AND HOW FAR THIS CONCEPT IS INDISPENSABLE TO REACHING THE FUNDAMENTAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

GOALS WEST HAD SET IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

6. STRULAK SAID FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEGO-
TIATING POSITION SHOULD BE FOUND IN ADAPTATION OF THE
WP FIRST STEP PROPOSAL, SUCH AS EXPLORATION OF HOW
THE SYMBOLIC REDUCTION SLICES WOULD BE DIVIDED AMONGST ALL
DIRECT PARTICIPANTS. HE APPARENTLY DID NOT CONCEIVE
HOWEVER THAT THE TOTAL FIGURE OF REDUCTIONS WOULD
EXCEED THE 20,000 FIGURE ON EACH SIDE. END TEXT.RESOR

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